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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 NSC-10 CPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-06

NSAE-00 P-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 H-02 RSR-01 /067 W
031865

R 220540Z JUN 72
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7750
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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HONG KONG PASS AMBASSADOR SWANK

SUBJ: LON NOL'S INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT

1. MINISTER OF STATE MAU SAY TELLS US THAT THE GKR NOW INTENDS TO SWEAR LON NOL IN AS PRESIDENT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS (PROBABLY JUNE 25) IN A SMALL, KHMER-ON CEREMONY. THIS IS NECESSARY BECAUSE ARTICLE 29179F THE CONSTITUTION FIXES THE EXPIRY OF THE PRESIDENT'S TERM OF OFFICE AT FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF SWEARING IN.

2. ACCORDING TO MAU SAY THE GKR IS STILL PLANNING AN ELABORATE CELEBRATION, WHICH IT HOPES SPECIAL FOREIGN ENVOYS WILL ATTEND, IN LATE JULY. THE DATE MAY SLIP, BOTH BECAUSE OF DELAYS IN PREPARING THE CHAMCAR MON PALACE, AND BECAUSE OF THE UNCERTAINTY OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT RESPONSES. DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS FEAKES IS COUNSELING THE KHMER TO KEEP IT SIMPLE, BUT SO FAR TO NO EFFECT.
ENDERS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY Truhlay DATE 10/9/80

RDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS

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6/23/72